

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-20, 22, and 23 are pending. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 4, 11 and 13. Support for the amendments may be found at least on page 1, lines 17-23, page 7, line 23, and in original claims 4 and 13.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Zhou in the February 10 telephone interview. Applicants incorporate a separate record of the substance of the interview into the following remarks. Specifically, the features of at least claims 1 and 11 are not disclosed by the applied art.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4, 9-11, 13, 18, 19, and 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,617,562 to Oran et al. (hereinafter "Oran"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As agreed during the telephone interview, Oran discloses a notification system that displays a taskbar notification in response to application information. Accordingly, the system of Oran fails to disclose synthesizing a value of a human sensible attribute of at the least one representation element based on changes in the at least one activity stream, wherein the activity stream is information including at least one of external sensor information, telephone information, broadcast news information, and pager information, as recited in claims 1 and 11.

Specifically, since the system of Oran only responds to application information, it cannot be considered to disclose responding to non-application information such as at least one of external sensor information, telephone information, broadcast news information, and pager information.

During the telephone interview, Examiner Zhou suggested that news information may be sent via e-mail and thus it may be possible that if an e-mail contained news, the system of Oran may be responding to news information. However, Applicants respectfully point out

that according to Examiner Zhou's hypothetical situation, the system of Oran would simply be responding to the arrival of the e-mail. That is, the response would be impendent of, and unrelated to, the actual content of the e-mail. Thus, the system of Oran would not be responding to the news information aspect of that e-mail but still the application information aspect of that e-mail. Second, the method and system of claims 1 and 11 respond to "broadcast news," such as news broadcast by television or radio. Such broadcast news is distinct from news sent via e-mail.

Because Oran fails to disclose synthesizing a value of a human sensible attribute of at the least one representation element based on changes in the at least one activity stream, wherein the activity stream is information including at least one of external sensor information, telephone information, broadcast news information, and pager information, claims 1 and 11 are patentable over Oran. Further, claims 3, 4, 9-10, 13, 18, 19, and 22-23 are patentable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 11 are patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite.

The Office Action rejects claims 5-8, 14-17, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Oran in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,670,970 to Bonura et al. (hereinafter "Bonura"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

This rejection is premised upon the presumption that Oran discloses all of the features of claims 1 and 11. Because, as discussed above, Oran does not disclose all of the features of claims 1 and 11, the rejection is improper. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants earnestly solicit favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3-11, 13-20, 22, and 23.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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